
Without some explanation it might seem strange that an excellent treatise on the Ohio Company of Virginia should be written and published in California. The explanation is relatively easy. California is interested in the history of the westward movement. The early history of western Pennsylvania is a significant part of that movement, and as this volume clearly demonstrates, the history of the Ohio Company is a chapter in the history of this particular colonial frontier. In addition, in the persons of the late Professor John C. Parish and of Professor Louis K. Koontz, the University of California at Los Angeles has for some years had excellent guidance for research in frontier history. This publication is a part of the result of such a situation. The publishers, lately removed from Cleveland to Glendale, California, have long been interested in works on frontier history.

A treatise such as this on the Ohio Company of Virginia has been needed for many years. Probably it could not have been written a generation ago, without enormous expenditure of time and money. Materials in print, in other than rare imprints, were scanty. The vast manuscript records of the company are known to have been destroyed, in part, at Alexandria, Virginia, during the Civil War. To piece out the facts in regard to the company and produce a treatise on its history required access to collections of materials scattered widely in the United States and Europe.

The distinct merit of this publication is that this widely scattered material has been secured and critically used. So much cannot be said for several earlier publications on the subject, mentioned in the bibliography of this volume.

Students of the history of western Pennsylvania, particularly those engaged in researches of their own, will find this volume virtually indispensable. The thirteen narrative or expository sections of the volume are all relevant to the history of western Pennsylvania though section eleven, on "Indiana and Vandalia," is somewhat less relevant to the subject of the volume. Western Pennsylvanians can accept the somewhat labored "Conclusion" to which an additional section is given. But the greatest value of the volume to vitally interested readers will be found in the 673 footnotes, in the ten documents added in the Appendix of Ohio Company Petitions, in the elaborate bibliography
of twenty-one pages, and in the excellent index, likewise of twenty-one pages.

The reviewer is unable to conceive how a better book could be written on this subject. Dr. Bailey has made the most of matters. Out of broken materials and a spotty subject he has knitted together the web of an interesting account.

It seems petty to indicate minor shortcomings in a work so finely done. But the sources of the five maps in the volume might have been given, along with some commentary upon the maps. Randolph C. Downes (not Douned) is the author of the article mentioned on p. 334. Any other errors the volume may contain escaped the attention of the reviewer.

To all students of the westward movement and frontier history and particularly to the readers of the *Western Pennsylvania Historical Magazine*, this volume will prove of great interest and value.

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ALFRED P. JAMES


Between 1736 and 1763 Benjamin Franklin, or Franklin and his partner David Hall, printed thirteen Indian treaties, as lively items of contemporary politics. The liveliness yet remains, in a literary sense; and the thirteen stately folios, here reproduced by photolithography, have engaging typographic qualities which blend pleasantly with the sophisticated opulence of the design of the present book. It is not too much to say that the dignity of Pennsylvania history itself is enhanced by this collectors’ jewel, so carefully planned, cut, and polished by Dr. Boyd and his technical associates.

The text of the treaties as printed in the *Pennsylvania Colonial Records* is adequate for the simpler purposes of research, a circumstance that will permit librarians to guard the present volume against the thumb-smudges of sophisters and baccalaureates. But the Franklin texts vary much in phraseology and in unimportant detail from those in the *Records*, and have that aura discriminately associated with the old, the first, and the best. Dr. Boyd’s bibliographical notes list all known copies of the original editions. (Since the making of these notes two additional copies have been discovered in the Darlington Library of the University of Pittsburgh.)

Relevant addenda include the journal of Conrad Weiser at the Albany Treaty of 1745, the journal of Benjamin Chew at the Easton Treaty of